



Seward Park (Basin 44) CSO Reduction Project

Community Guide to the Project

The Seward Park (Basin 44) CSO Reduction Project will reduce the amount of untreated sewage and stormwater runoff that overflows into Lake Washington. Seattle Public Utilities must correct this problem to protect public health, improve the quality of Lake Washington, and comply with the Clean Water Act and State regulations.

Look inside for information on:

- **Project background and description**
- **Environmental review process**
- **Introduction to the project alternatives**
- **How to provide comments**

Project Overview

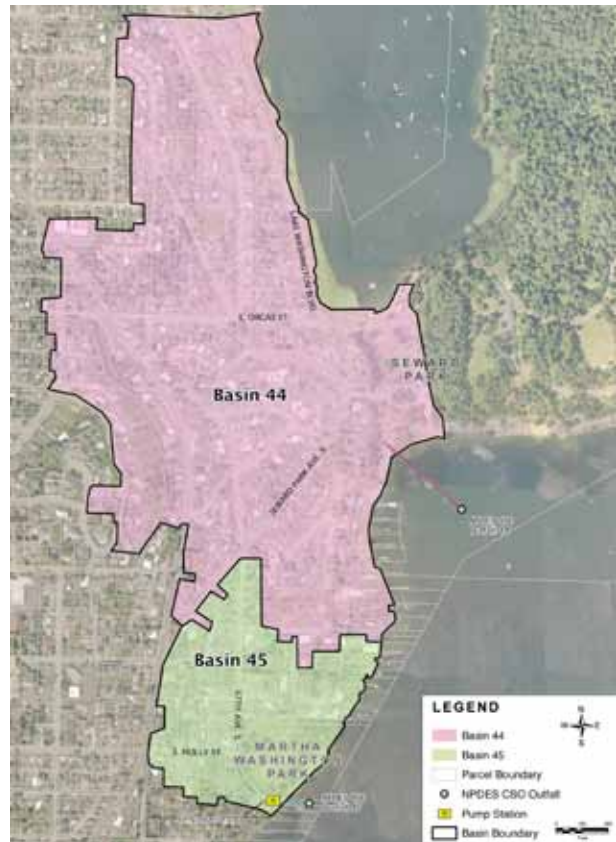
What is the Project?

The Seward Park (Basin 44) Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Reduction Project will reduce the amount of untreated sewage and stormwater runoff that overflows into Lake Washington at the combined sewer overflow outfall in Seward Park.

SPU proposes to construct an underground storage facility in Seward Park to temporarily hold combined sewage and stormwater runoff. When there is capacity available, the facility would gradually send flows to the downstream sewer system for treatment and discharge.

Why is the project needed?

Overflows occur at the Seward Park outfall about 12-16 times per year. SPU is working to reduce overflows to no more than one per outfall per year to protect public health and the environment and comply with the Clean Water Act and state regulations.



This project will reduce overflows at Outfall #44, near Seward Park. In a separate project, Seattle Public Utilities is studying options to reduce overflows at Outfall #45, near Martha Washington Park.

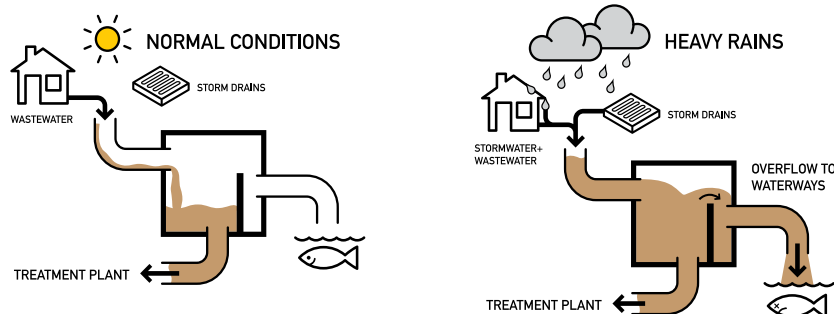
Basin 44 Quick Facts

- 16 overflows occurred in 2010
- 9.9 million gallons of untreated sewage and rainwater were released into Lake Washington in 2010, just south of Seward Park
- SPU is required by State and Federal regulations to reduce overflows to no more than one per year per outfall

What is a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)?

More than 100 years ago, Seattle's sewer system was designed to carry both sewage from inside homes and rainwater from rooftops and streets in a single pipe - a "combined sewer."

During heavy rain, pipes that carry both sewage and rainwater can overflow into lakes, streams or Puget Sound. So much of Seattle is covered by buildings and pavement that rain causes runoff that can overflow the combined sewer system.



Seattle CSO Quick Facts

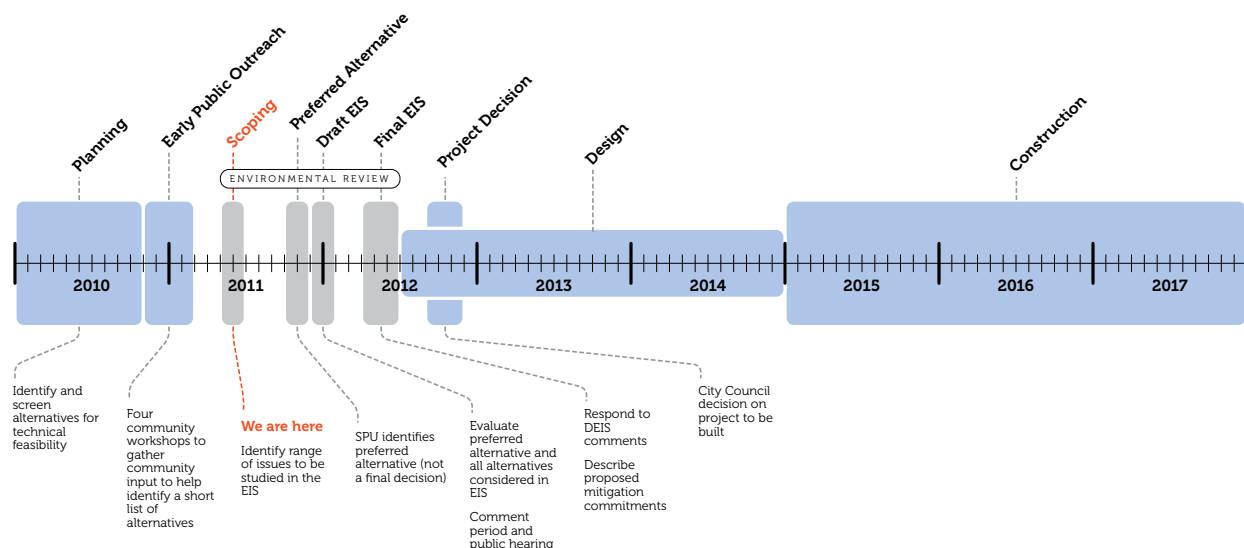
- SPU and King County both manage outfalls in the City of Seattle
- SPU manages 90 outfall locations; King County manages 38
- 339 CSO events and 190 million gallons discharged in 2010 at SPU managed outfalls
- About 1 billion gallons discharged in 2010 (Seattle and King County combined)

Why is SPU controlling CSOs?

Even though overflows do not affect our drinking water, they are a public health concern because they carry pollutants from untreated sewage and stormwater into our lakes, streams and Puget Sound.

We must correct this problem to protect public health, improve the quality of our creeks, lakes, rivers and Puget Sound, and comply with the Clean Water Act and State regulations.

What is the project schedule?



Environmental Review Process

Environmental review is an important part of the process of identifying the best way to reduce combined sewer overflows. For this project, Seattle Public Utilities will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) to document how the project could impact people and the environment.

What is Scoping?

Scoping is the first step in the environmental review process. The purpose of scoping is to determine the range or “scope” of issues to study in a project’s environmental review document, as required by SEPA.

For the Seward Park (Basin 44) CSO Reduction Project, Seattle Public Utilities will prepare a SEPA EIS to evaluate a range of alternatives and identify ways to avoid and minimize effects of the project to the community and environment.

What are the environmental issues?

Public comment is important in identifying the highest priority issues that Seattle Public Utilities should consider.

Seattle Public Utilities will discuss the following environmental issues in detail in the EIS:

- Recreation
 - Park use and access
 - Parking
 - Special events
 - Safety
- Transportation
 - Construction Traffic
 - Emergency services
 - Community cohesion/ disruption

The EIS will include a brief discussion of the following issues:

- Earth
- Air
- Water
- Plants and animals
- Energy
- Environmental health
- Land and shoreline use
- Cultural resources
- Other public services & utilities

What areas of the environment most concern you?

How to Comment

Scoping includes an official comment period from May 26 – June 16, 2011. Please submit comments on or before June 16, 2011 to allow timely consideration of your issues and concerns by our review team as they begin field studies and early design.

To help the project team best understand your concerns and interests, comment letters should clearly identify the alternative(s) or issues(s) of concern. All public comments will be included in the official record.

Want to Learn More?

View project information online at:
www.seattle.gov/CSO

By Mail: Send Completed Comment Form or Letter to:

Seattle Public Utilities
Attention: Betty Meyer
Seattle Municipal Tower, Suite 4900
P.O. Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

In Person: Public Scoping Open House

Tuesday, June 7, 2011
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Seward Park Environmental & Audubon Center
5902 Lake Washington Blvd S
Seattle, WA 98118

Call with Questions and Comments

Contact us at the project hotline and let us know your thoughts: 206.826.4767

**Please submit comments by
June 16, 2011**

Description of Project Alternatives

SPU is currently studying two “action alternatives” (alternatives that would require construction) as well as a “no action alternative” in the EIS.

The no action alternative is being evaluated as the basis for comparing effects associated with the two action alternatives. If Seattle Public Utilities does not take action in Basin 44, overflows will continue to occur at the outfall in Seward Park above the regulatory maximum of one overflow per year, in violation of the Clean Water Act and State Regulations.

How did we identify the project alternatives?

Seattle Public Utilities hosted a four-workshop series in late 2010 and early 2011 to gather community input to help identify a short list of alternatives to advance for further design and evaluation during environmental review.

Each workshop built upon the outcomes of the previous ones:

Workshop #1 - November 18, 2010

- Learned about methods to reduce CSOs

Workshop #2 - December 14, 2010

- Learned about site-specific CSO reduction alternatives
- Identified and weighted community evaluation criteria

Workshop #3 - January 19, 2011

- Tested project alternatives against the community evaluation criteria

Workshop #4 - March 10, 2011

- Presented results of alternatives evaluation
- Confirmed a short-list of alternatives for further study



Build Alternative 1 – Parking Lot Tank



Description of Proposed Facility

Build a 2.4 million gallon storage tank and facilities vaults underneath the parking lot on the south side of Seward Park, adjacent to the Lake Washington shoreline. A 2.4 million gallon tank and facilities vaults in this location would be approximately 410 feet long by 50 feet wide and 30 feet deep.



Parking lot today

During Construction, 2015-2017

Construction Duration

Facility construction would last 18-24 months.

What to Expect During Construction

- Parking lot would be closed during construction.
- Staging area for equipment and materials would be located in the existing parking lot and likely another parking lot to the west.
- A parking area would be needed for construction personnel. Parking options include:
 - Seward Park Road, immediately adjacent to the west side of the parking lot;
 - Existing paved parking lot approximately 300 feet west of the site, immediately adjacent to the tennis courts at the south end of Seward Park.
- Construction would normally occur during daylight hours.
- Construction schedule would be coordinated with major events.



During construction



Completed facility – above ground

After Construction, 2017 and beyond

Restoration

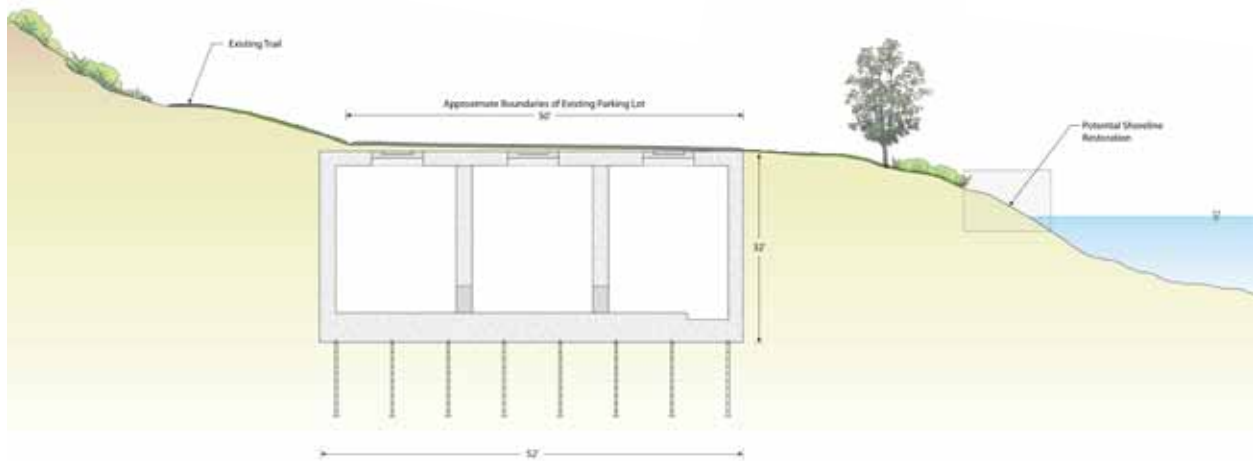
- Once construction is complete, most of the facility would be underground.
- The parking lot would be replaced and reopened to the public.
- Trees and plants removed during construction would be replanted with native species.

Facility Features

- Hatches that are access points for maintenance crews.
- Short air intake/exhaust plenums for ventilating the underground facilities vaults.
- Air discharge grate of treated air from odor control vault.

What to Expect After Construction

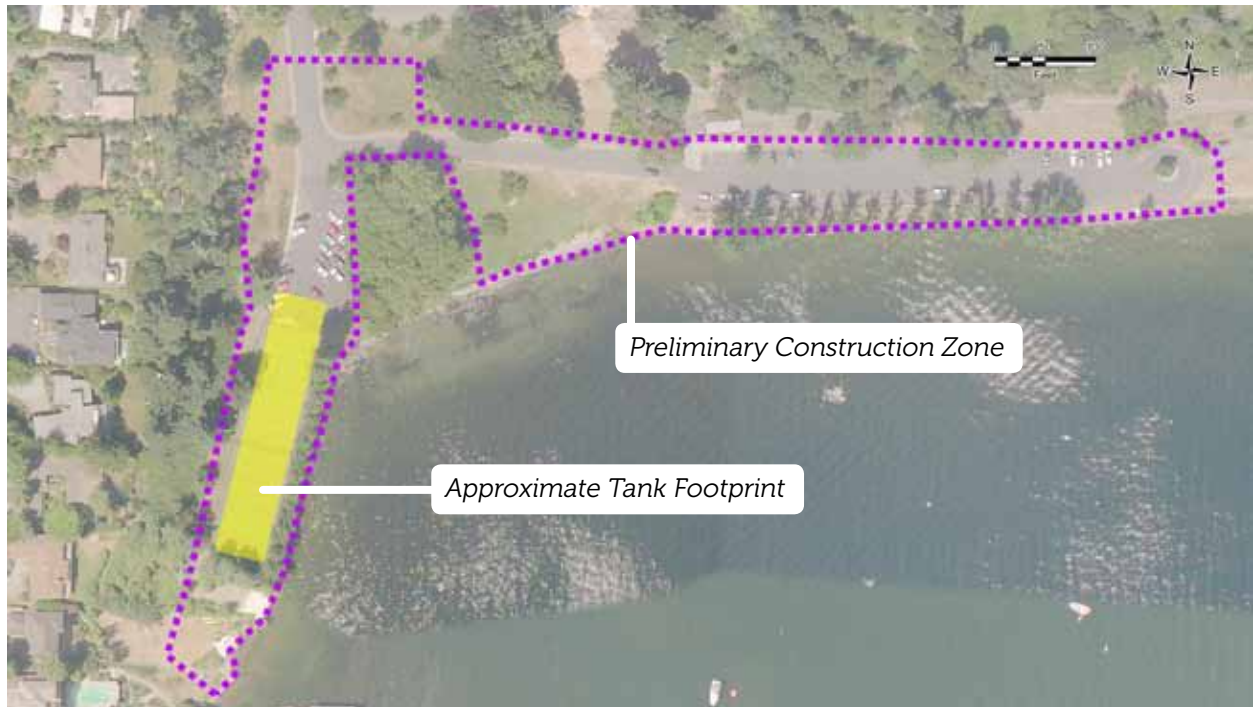
- Ongoing maintenance activities would include periodic inspections and infrequent tank cleaning and maintenance.
- Trucks would access the site periodically for maintenance.
- Noise would be minimal because vaults and tanks are underground.
- Air from tank would pass through carbon scrubber to remove odors.



Completed facility – below ground

Notes

Build Alternative 2 – Tennis Court Tank



Description of Proposed Facility

Build a 2.4 million gallon storage facility underneath the existing tennis courts and an adjacent parking lot on the southwest side of Seward Park, adjacent to the Lake Washington shoreline. A 2.4 million gallon tank and facilities vault in this location would be approximately 410 feet long, 50 feet wide, and 30 feet deep.



Tennis court today

During Construction, 2015-2017

Construction Duration

Tank construction would last 18-24 months.

What to Expect During Construction

- The tennis courts and adjacent parking lot would be closed during construction.
- Staging area for equipment and materials would be located on the adjacent parking lot site.
- Parking options for construction personnel are:
 - Seward Park Road, immediately adjacent to the east side of the existing parking lot;
 - An existing paved parking lot approximately 300 feet east of the site, along the Lake Washington shoreline.
- Construction would normally occur during daylight hours.
- Construction schedule would be coordinated with major events.



During construction



After Construction, 2017 and beyond

Restoration

- Once construction is complete, most of the facility would be underground.
- Tennis courts would be rebuilt and reopened to the public.
- The parking lot would be restored and reopened to the public.
- The row of trees adjacent to the tennis courts would be removed and replaced with native vegetation.

Facility Features

- Hatches that are access points for maintenance crews.
- Short air intake/exhaust plenums for ventilating the underground facilities vaults.
- Air discharge grate of treated air from odor control vault

What to Expect After Construction

- Ongoing maintenance activities would include periodic inspections and infrequent tank cleaning and maintenance.
- Trucks would access the site periodically for maintenance.
- Noise would be minimal because vaults and tanks are underground.
- Air from tank would pass through carbon scrubber to remove odors.



Completed facility – below ground

Notes



View project information online at: www.seattle.gov/CSO